

Old mills are monuments to past

By Bruce Jennings
Deseret News correspondent

MANTI — Unlike the mills of the gods, which according to fable continue to grind slowly but "grind exceedingly small," the grist mills which were once major institutions in a half-hundred Utah towns are largely gone.

Some have been razed, some have been turned to other uses, a few remain — their machinery long gone beside the streams which gave them power, picturesque reminders of another era.

Glen Goodwin, who spent most of his lifetime teaching and coaching at Manti High School, likes to revisit the old mill on the Fremont River, the mill of his boyhood, midway between Bicknell and Teasdale in Wayne County.

The trip to the mill on the Fremont with a wagon load of grain from the family farm in Grover was a two-day expedition, Goodwin recalls.

"As a boy," he says, "I'd accompany my dad on a trip to the mill. For me it was a holiday. We'd camp overnight beside the Fremont, close by the mill."

"The mill was an exciting place. It was a kind of social center. The



The mill on the Fremont River, is a favorite spot for Utah artists and photographers.

farmers would gather there to talk about crops, the weather, politics, the tariff.

"The next day, after loading the flour, the bran and shorts and the bags of breakfast cereal, we'd return home, 15 miles away.

"The wheat would go to the mill in gunny sacks. It'd come out of the mill in white sacks with the mill's brand name printed in red.

"Mother made pillow cases, dish cloths and aprons out of the flour sacks. They were prized. Some wo-

men even made dresses for their little girls out of them."

Those were the days before supermarkets, tractors and electricity on the farm, Goodwin remembers. "We studied our school books by the light of kerosene lamps. People were much more self-sufficient. They had to be. You ate what you raised.

"The mill," he adds, "was a main institution, like the schoolhouse and the church. Life revolved around them."

The old wooden mill on the Fremont — just off the highway — its machinery removed years ago — still stands in its picturesque setting: tall poplars and the hill behind it, water in the foreground in summer and grazing horses.

It's a favorite subject, now, for artists and photographers.

And Goodwin hopes it stays forever, preserved somehow, a monument to a way of life that is almost gone and values sometimes called old-fashioned.

The old mill in Glenwood, Sevier County, built of stone from a nearby outcropping, has had a similar fate. The clanking of the machinery has ceased, the stream has been turned away. Its visitors are birds and squirrels and an occasional homesick re-

turnee anxious to see "what it was like when I was a kid."

Two old mills in the Sanpete Valley, while retaining their familiar appearance, are being turned to other uses. Ephraim's old mill on Main Street is now being transformed into a civic center that will serve twin purposes: historic preservation and economic development.

Manti's first grist mill, on the creek above town, was destroyed by fire and its miller and his assistant killed in an Indian raid. A stone marker stands near the scene, close by the stream.

Manti's second mill, powered by the stream, has had extensive remodeling, although its huge stone walls and heavy wooden beams are still intact. But it's also equipped with tall stairways, bathrooms and porches. The building is now home to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mickelson and their nine children. And an architect has described it as "a pleasing mix of both the pioneer and the modern."

Manti's third mill, still beside the stream, but in town now, has electricity for its energy source. Fifty years ago the mill produced a popular brand of flour for housewives who baked their own bread. Now it processes grain for lamb feeders and turkey growers.



PHOTOGRAPHY/ BRUCE JENNINGS

DeAnn Jennings admires the old mill in Glenwood, Sevier County, which was built of stone from a nearby outcropping.

(Additional births on preceding page)

Thomas Kearns McCarthy

Thomas Kearns McCarthy, beloved husband, father, brother and grandfather, passed away peacefully, December 22, 1989 at Holy Cross Hospital after a courageous struggle against an extended illness.



He was Vice President of Kearns-Tribune Corporation, owner of the Salt Lake Tribune, and a member of the Executive Committee of its Board of Directors. He served in the advertising sales department of the Tribune and Newspaper Agency Corporation for more than 40 years. He was also an officer and director of Silver King Mining Co., and Kearns-Tribune Investments, Inc. Mr. McCarthy was a grandson of the late Sen. Thomas Kearns and Jennie Judge Kearns. Sen. Kearns, a pioneer Park City miner, was a United States Senator from Utah, elected to congress by the state legislature in 1901, the year he became a co-owner of the Tribune and David Keith. Sen. Kearns later became sole owner, and his grandson became a major stockholder and executive in the corporation that bears his name.

Kearns McCarthy was born in Salt Lake City, August 23, 1920, a son of Helen Kearns and Glen Elroy McCarthy. His father died in 1926, his mother in 1943. He spent his early years in San Mateo and Hillsborough, California, and attended Bellarmine Preparatory School, Ojai, California, and Canterbury, Conn. high schools, graduating in 1939 from St. Ignace High in San Francisco. He was graduated from San Mateo Junior College in 1942. He married the former Jane Finn, September 17, 1949, in Northampton, Massachusetts.

He is survived by his wife, Jane; three sons, Thomas K., Jr. (and wife Mary), Jr., Philip G. (and wife Sandra); Shaun McCarthy, two daughters, Sarah Jane and Mary.

Mary B. Pack

Our loving mother, grandmother, sister, friend, Mary Hawkins Bailey Pack passed away December 24, 1989 in Sandy, Utah.

She was born July 16, 1907 in Wellsville, Utah to Cyrus Adamson and Effie Maude Hawkins Bailey. Married Elmo Pack June 28, 1928 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. She moved with her family to Howell, Utah in 1910 where she lived until she was 17-years-old. Then moved to American Fork, graduated from Brigham High School in 1924 and from the University of Utah in 1936 with a normal degree. While teaching school in Vernon, Utah, she met and married Elmo Pack, her principal, June 28, 1928 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. Elmo passed away May 21, 1988 in Salt Lake City. She was an active member of the LDS Church serving in many organizations both on ward and stake levels. At age fifty she returned to the U of U and received her BS degree and taught 17 years in the Granite School District in Elementary and Special Education departments. Mary was a charter member of the EMC Lions Auxiliary Club. She was captain of EMC Neff Camp of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers and also President. No one was more loving and giving of her time and talents to her family and others. Her unselfish service touched the lives of all those she knew.

Survived by three sons and two daughters, Richard Elmo, Salt Lake; Robert Bailey, Orem; James Oland, Salt Lake; Mary Joyce Williamson, Houston, Tx.; Agnes LaRoe Mitchell, Rio, Calif.; 33 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; brother and two sisters, Melvin Bailey, Nevada; Joan Bailey, California; Beth Miller, St. George. Preceded in death by her husband, Elmo; daughter, Effie; and four brothers and three sisters, Brazy, Don, Cyrus, Steirle, Della May, Maud and Melba.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m., Wednesday, December 27, 1989, at the East Millcreek 1st Ward, 2702 East Evergreen Ave. (3425 South), with Bishop Monte Yeager officiating. Friends may call Tuesday, December 26, 10-11 a.m. at the same location.

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John Sieverts

Our beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and friend, John Sieverts, age 85, passed away peacefully at his home in Salt Lake City, Utah, on December 23, 1989.

Born June 25, 1904, Amsterdam, Holland, the son of Abraham and Trynne Visser Sieverts. John emigrated from Amsterdam to Salt Lake City at the age of eleven. He married Minnie Dalebout, June 10, 1931, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. Active High Priest in the LDS Church. Served a mission to Holland from 1928-1930, three stake missions in Salt Lake City and then again to Holland with his wife from 1970-1972. The gospel and John's family meant the world to him, he lived for them both. John loved the outdoors, especially ranching, fishing and hunting. He and his brother, Albert Peter were life-long partners in everything.

Survived by his loving wife, Minnie, Salt Lake City; two daughters and three sons: Jean Jensen, Martinez, California; Carolyn Pack, John W. (Jack) Sieverts, both Sandy, Utah; Reed D. Sieverts, Park City, Utah; and David A. Sieverts, Riverton, Utah; 28 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; three sisters and two brothers: Nellie Neerings, Ann Noorda, Catherine Branca, James C. Sieverts and Abraham Sieverts. Preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Arnold and Albert Sieverts.

Funeral services will be Wednesday, December 27th, 12 Noon, in the Holladay 16th Ward, 4407 South Fortuna Way (3650 East). Friends may call at the Larkin Sunset Lawn Mortuary, 2350 East 1300 South, Tuesday evening, 6-8 p.m. and at the Ward Wednesday, from 10:30-11:45 a.m. Interment, Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park.

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Elmer D. Davis

Elmer David Davis, died December 23, 1989, while hospitalized in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Born September 19, 1915, in Salt Lake City, Utah, the son of Reuben P. and Vella Louise Davis. Graduate of East High School. Served a mission for the LDS Church to New Zealand, 1936-37. Married Charlene Woods on August 22, 1938, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. Active in the High Priest Group in the Monument Park 15th Ward. Served in many capacities in the LDS Church. He was Vice-President and on the Board of Directors of Mountain View Savings, and was Division Manager of the Salt Lake Division of that company. He retired on December 31, 1981. Had served as president of the Utah Savings and Loan League in 1952. Was the owner of Associated Realty Company, and was co-owner and developer of the St. Mary's Hills subdivision. Member of the Salt Lake Country Club for many years and loved to play golf. He enjoyed all sports as a spectator. He was dearly loved by his family and respected by all who knew him.

Survived by his wife, Salt Lake City; three sons: Dr. Roger W. Davis, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Dr. Craig W. Davis; Dr. Daniel W. Davis; a daughter, Denise Davis, all of Salt Lake City; also survived by ten precious grandchildren; a brother, Harold L. Davis; and a sister, Mrs. Vernon C. (Eva) Young. Preceded in death by a brother, Leo R. Davis and two sisters, Fern Briggs and Ora Matheson.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 28th, 2 p.m., at the Monument Park Stake Center, 1320 South Wasatch Drive. Friends may call at the Larkin Sunset Lawn Mortuary, 2350 East 1300 South, Wednesday evening, 6-8 p.m., and at the Stake Center Thursday, one hour prior to the services. Entombment, Larkin Sunset Lawn.

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Vella B. Smith

Vella Billings Smith, 98, long time resident of Vernal, died December 26, 1989 in Bountiful, Utah.

She was born August 26, 1891 in Jensen, Utah, the second of eight children born to Alfred Nelson Billings and Alice Envia Orser. Graduated from BYU May 31, 1912. Taught school in Jensen. Married Driver Edwin Smith December 22, 1915 in the Salt Lake Temple. He preceded her in death on June 19, 1962. Faithful worker in the LDS Church all of her life. Loved by all who knew her. Member of DUP, Business, and of Professional Women's Clubs, lived and operated Ute Indian Trading Post.

She is survived by son "B" Maurice and his wife Alma, Bountiful; daughter and son-in-law, Miriam and Robert Lenz of Jackson Wyoming; daughter-in-law, Marion Smith of Canyon Lake California; 21 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. Also survived by brothers, Eldon P. Billings, Vernal, Utah and Cecil Billings, Pocatello, Idaho. Preceded in death by sons "B" Edwin, "B" Orser and Larry; daughter, Shirley S. Parmacek, son-in-law, Louis Parmacek and daughter-in-law, Della Smith.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, December 27, 1989 10:30 a.m. in the Bountiful 4th Ward Chapel, 102 East 1400 South. Friends may call Tuesday evening from 6-8 p.m. in the Russian Brothers Bountiful Mortuary, 295 North Main and on Wednesday at the Church from 9-15:10:15 prior to the services. Memorial Services will be held Thursday, December 28, 1989 11 a.m. in the Vernal Fourth Ward, 235 East 600 South. Friends may call Wednesday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the Valley Funeral Home, 224 East 500 South Vernal. Interment: Vernal Memorial Park.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 28th, 2 p.m., at the Monument Park Stake Center, 1320 South Wasatch Drive. Friends may call at the Larkin Sunset Lawn Mortuary, 2350 East 1300 South, Wednesday evening, 6-8 p.m., and at the Stake Center Thursday, one hour prior to the services. Entombment, Larkin Sunset Lawn.

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Edited by Eugene T. Maleska

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Helen Norberg Astin

Helen Elizabeth Norberg Astin, 78, passed away peacefully December 24, 1989 of heart failure in Salt Lake City.

Born July 29, 1911 to Hyrum and Jane M. Shepherd Norberg in Salt Lake.

Angus L. Langford

MAGNA-Angus L. Langford, 86, died December 22, 1989 of natural causes.

Born October 18, 1903 in Onawa, Iowa.

Mcirre Scobee Shields

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Born October 18, 1903 in Onawa, Iowa.